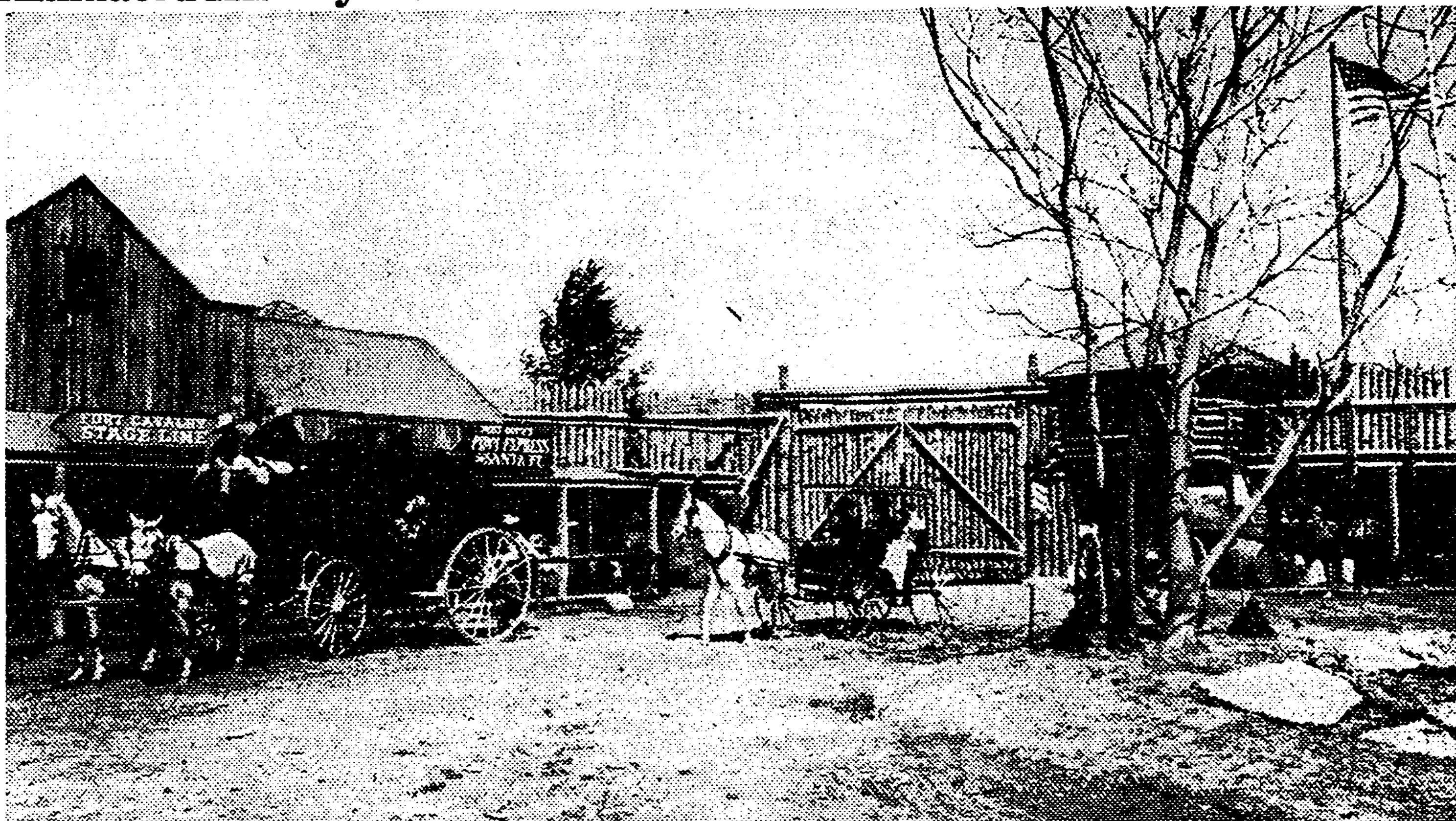


Animated History in East Bronx's Freedomland Is Revealed in a Preview



A scene in a Western setting is rehearsed at Freedomland, the amusement center that will open June 19 in the Bronx

What used to be a sprawling swamp in the East Bronx is rapidly being converted into an animated history book in which cowboys will soon fret, stagecoaches will be robbed, and Chicago will burn—every twenty minutes.

All this, and much more, will be seen on June 19 when Freedomland, the \$65,000,000 amusement project fashioned after Disneyland, but designed to portray America in its more primitive days, will open.

Freedomland's eighty-five acres are shaped like the map of the United States, with ponds representing its rivers, rock-pilings its mountains,

and newly planted trees its forests.

To the northeast is "Little Old New York," a quaint settlement of red brick buildings with a gas-lit flavor.

To the west (a few blocks away) is San Francisco, where Chinese junks soon will float in its Bay, and where buildings are collapsible so that, with a push of a button and some optical illusion, they will crumble as they did during the earthquake.

In the middle stands a miniature Chicago, with its Pony Express, horse-drawn wagons, and its shanties equipped to sprout rays of fire every twenty minutes—fire that will

be summarily extinguished by actors and volunteer hams.

It was this spacious creation of C. V. Wood, who built Disneyland, that forty reporters and skeptics visited yesterday. They found the place incomplete, but enough of Freedomland was built to make the visitor seem far from the Bronx.

To achieve realism, Freedomland's backers have purchased eighty burros from the Southwest, 200 horses from Indiana, saddles from Georgia, canoes from Maine, and six stage coaches.

Three thousand employees will be part of the scenery, always dressed in the custom of the period.

Throughout yesterday's tour, the visitors encountered stuffed bears; stuffed vovles and durable plastic Indians hiding in the trees for an ambush.

Mr. Wood said that Freedomland would definitely be ready on June 19, and would remain open through next fall; it will probably be a six-month business, and he expects 22,500 visitors daily. Admission will be 50 cents for children and \$1 for adults. This, of course, does not include the price of rides on the canoes, stage coaches, or showboats. One hundred acres around the "map" will be for public parking.